

Wasatch Co. Building Survey

Name of Building: William D Johnston Blacksmith Shop

Information Required		Date Found
Location:		
Address: <u>55 So Main</u>	Town: <u>Heber</u>	
Architect:		
Builders:		
Building Material: <u>clap</u>		
Style of Building:		
Date Built:		
Original Owners:		
FGS		
Pedigree		
Histories		
Pictures		
Subsequent Owners:		
Notes:		
References: 1. Under		
2. KBUM pp 402-75		
3. See Opal S. Jord.		
4. Wasatch Wave		

WILLIAM D. JOHNSTON

William D. Johnston was born in Denmark on April 11, 1879, and died May 17, 1956. He was a son of John Elof Johnston. His mother died when he was three weeks old. His father left him in Denmark with the father's sister, Eda, and the father came to the United States. His father sent for him when he was five years old, and he crossed the ocean alone. He was still crying when he arrived in Salt Lake, because he had left his sack of candy on the ship. His father met him at the dock and brought him to Salt Lake City to live with the father's sister and husband, Augusta and Andrew Anderson. For years he was known as Willie Anderson.

At the age of 12 years he ran away from home and went to Park City, Utah. He ate his first lunch of sandwiches on old China Bridge. He went to work as an apprentice for Jim and Edward Berry. They taught him the blacksmith trade. He tended their children at night to pay for his board and room. As he grew older he went to

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work at the mines as a stationary engineer.

In 1900 he rented a shop and went into business for himself as a blacksmith. His first shop was located where the Turner Building & Supply Company is now. He was in business on Main Street for 50 years.

He married Charita Buys on December 25, 1899. She was born October 15, 1880, and died August 25, 1961. She was born in Buysville, Utah, and was the daughter of Edward Buys and Clarissa Bramley Buys. She spent all her childhood at Buysville, later moving to Heber City with her family. They were the parents of four children, three girls and a son. Two of the girls and the son died in infancy. They are survived by one daughter, Opal Jordan; two grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.



W.D. Johnston, Horseshoeing and General Blacksmith. —Submitted by Valerie Howcraft



Blacksmith shop built about 1865—still in use. Built by Daniel Mc McMillan. Now owned by William Johnston.

Valerie Howcraft
694-2716
Blacksmith
Johnston
Picture